

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in advance of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to air "Stolen Honor," a short three weeks before the national election. Based upon the information reported in the Washington Post and other media outlets, it appears that the broadcast is a partisan effort to influence the outcome of the election. As such, at a minimum, the Kerry-Edwards campaign should be entitled to equal access to the Sinclair station's to respond to the piece, or to broadcast a show about President Bush's dereliction of duty while serving in the National Guard during the Vietnam War.

The issue of Sinclair's broadcast also heightens concerns about the consolidation of media ownership in the United States, but that is an issue for another day.

I request that you grant the Kerry-Edwards campaign equal access to the public airwaves. Moreover, the FCC should immediately conduct a review of Sinclair's broadcast licenses to determine whether there is a hidden quid pro quo between the airing of a partisan smear show on their networks and other promises by the Republican members of the FCC, Congress, and the Executive Branch. Based upon Tom DeLay's recent censure for unethical conduct, it would be no surprise to learn that promises were made to Sinclair's ownership in return for their partisan support.

I remain
Robert A. Feitel